

## News from the Midwest

Assistant Editors: Alexandra Bisio, University of Oregon, and Lois Hamill, Northern Kentucky University. Please submit News from the Midwest items for Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Ohio to Alexandra at [bisio@uoregon.edu](mailto:bisio@uoregon.edu) and items from Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, and Wisconsin to Lois at [hamilll1@nku.edu](mailto:hamilll1@nku.edu). Submissions must be 150 words or less. Images are welcome!

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### ILLINOIS

#### Northwestern University Libraries

*Northwestern Community Ensemble: Black Sacred Music and the College Campus* (<https://sites.northwestern.edu/nce1971>) tells the origin story of Northwestern University's campus gospel choir. In 1971, a group of Black students established NCE in the Black sacred music tradition to provide a spiritual outlet, to create a space to connect at a predominately white university, and to engage in a Black cultural tradition. The online exhibit features archival materials from the Northwestern University Archives and clips from oral history interviews with the founders and early members of the student group. After 50 years, this music ministry still has a strong presence on campus and in the greater Chicago area.

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### IOWA

#### Iowa State University

In December 2020, Iowa State University received a grant from the National Recording Preservation Foundation to digitize 991 audio recordings of ISU lectures. The chosen selection spans 1970s–1990s, and the recordings were nominated based on their high cultural, historical, and aesthetic value, as well as on the endangered nature of magnetic media, the lack of access options for this medium, the high research value and demand for the selections, and the ability to share them publicly, free of restrictions. ISU completed this grant in June. Read more about

this project at *Cardinal Tales* (<https://isuspecialcollections.wordpress.com/2020/12/15/nrpf-grant-awarded-to-digitize-isu-lectures>). The digitized lectures are available at <https://iastate.aviaryplatform.com/collections/1150> and YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLxEspDNITCII6WwAtDZT08QaCYORT1n1g>). \$ ISU's most recent exhibit, *A Home Away from Home: The George A. Jackson Black Cultural Center*, opened in February in the Parks Library. Read more about this exhibit in the library newsletter (<https://www.lib.iastate.edu/news/%E2%80%9C-home-away-home-george-jackson-black-cultural-center%E2%80%9D>). Keep an eye out in the next newsletter for the digitized exhibit.

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### MINNESOTA

#### University of Minnesota Social Welfare History Archives

The Social Welfare History Archives at the University of Minnesota Libraries received a \$10,000 grant from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the Minnesota Historical Society for a digital preservation and access project, Public Health in Minnesota: Digitizing Recordings of *A Public Health Journal* Television Program. The 12-month project will make over 300 recordings from the Minnesota Public Health Association records available online and bring the history of public health to a diverse audience of community members, scholars, and professionals. *This publication was made possible in part by the people of Minnesota through a grant funded*

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### MISSOURI

#### Carondelet Consolidated Archives

In response to Pope Francis's dedication of 2021 as the Year of Saint Joseph, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet's Consolidated Archives curated an online exhibit of artistic works created by their members that pay homage to St. Joseph, the patron of the Universal Church. The National Catholic Educational Association also promoted the collection on its website so that teachers and students across the United States could view and study these materials. The online exhibit is part of the Carondelet Consolidated Archives' digital collections website hosted by the Internet Archive. You can view these works and more at <https://archive.org/details/carondeletconsolidatedarchive>.

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Photo courtesy of the Carondelet Consolidated Archives

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## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

### **South Dakota State Historical Society**

*Charlie Russell and the Gnomes of Bull Head Lodge*, written by Emily Crawford Wilson and illustrated by Montana-based artist Jeanne Bowman, is the most recent children's picture book available from the South Dakota Historical Society Press. Using history and art, Wilson crafts an afternoon of magical mischief, through a modern fairy tale based on the life of western artist Charles M. Russell (1864–1926). The story takes place deep in the woods of Glacier National Park, where artist Charlie Russell struggles to create his latest painting. With fellow artist Joe De Yong, he hikes into the wilderness to clear the cobwebs from his mind. Just

as the artists disappear from sight, three gnomes—funny little creatures that Charlie built from twisted branches and birch bark—POP! POP! POP! to life. They know how to inspire Charlie's next masterpiece! Jumping down from the porch, they search the forest floor for just the right thing to jog his imagination.

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## **WISCONSIN**

### **Milwaukee Public Library**

Frank Zeidler was the last Socialist mayor of the City of Milwaukee (1948–1960) and continued to be an important local activist/leader. In the summer of 2019, Milwaukee Public Library began the process of appraising and organizing over 400 record cartons of his unprocessed materials. These materials were then integrated into the existing collection previously processed in the 1980s. This revealed that the entire collection would need reprocessing. In early 2020, due to the pandemic, work was paused; however work resumed in August, and now the processing of all 200 boxes is complete. While reviewing those unprocessed boxes, archivists also discovered 30 boxes of records of the Socialist Party, including local, national, and international branches. This created the next project: reorganizing and integrating those materials into the

existing Socialist Party collection. Library staff are thrilled to finally see these collections open to the public and accessible for research.

### **University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Archives Department**

This spring, the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Archives created an online exhibit, *The Immortal Magazine: A History of "The Little Review" Magazine and the Women behind It*. The exhibit highlights the history of *The Little Review*, a literary and art magazine active during the modernist era from 1914 to 1929 and delves into LGBTQ+ history by looking at the lives of its editors, Margaret Anderson and Jane Heap. The UWM Archives holds the records of *The Little Review* detailing the production of the magazine and the personalities of the celebrities who submitted work for publication. The magazine was known best for its publication of *Ulysses* by James Joyce and participation in the obscenity trial that subsequently banned the work in the United States, and this exhibit explores other controversies and achievements in the magazine's lifetime that are often overlooked. Visit the exhibit at <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/bc4b2209f4724924b93447363bd29a49>.